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2                   **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**  
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4       An external client securely accesses a private corporate network using a  
5 communications device, but without the communications device being required to  
6 communicate through the private corporate network when communicating with resources  
7 external to the private corporate network. The external client establishes a connection with  
8 the private corporate network over the public network such as the Internet using, for  
9 example, Transmission Control Protocol (TCP). The external client then provides security  
10 to the connection by running, for example, the Secure Socket Layer (SSL) protocol over  
11 the TCP protocol. During the ensuing session with the private corporate network, the  
12 communications device establishes a subsequent connection(s) with the external resource.  
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